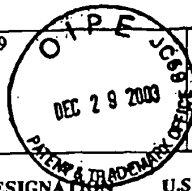


FORM PTO-1449	ATTY. DOCKET NO.	75622.P0043	SERIAL NO.	09/932,817
	APPLICANT	Dupuis		
	FILING DATE	8/17/2001	GROUP	2817



REFERENCE DESIGNATION U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

EXAMINER <u>SHINGLETON</u>	DATE CONSIDERED <u>Apr. 126, 2004</u>
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Rev. 10/94 (Form 3.05)

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROTECTING
DEVICES IN AN RF POWER AMPLIFIER**

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

- 5 [01] The following U. S. patent application is expressly incorporated herein by
reference: Serial No: 09/842,456, entitled "RF POWER DETECTOR" by Timothy J.
Dupuis et al, filed on April 26, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of United States
application serial number 09/660,123, filed on September 12, 2000, entitled "POWER
AMPLIFIER CIRCUITRY AND METHOD".
- 4-26-04
MBS
09932817-081701
now US Patent 6,727,754
now U.S. PAT. No. 6,549,671*

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FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[02] This invention relates to the field of power amplifiers. More particularly, this
invention relates to circuitry for protecting devices in an RF power amplifier.

15 **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

[03] In some applications utilizing a power amplifier, it is desirable to limit peak
voltages to which active devices of the power amplifier are subjected. For example, in
CMOS devices, the transistor breakdown voltage may be only slightly greater than the
supply voltage. In RF power amplifiers, high peak voltages can be caused by load
20 mismatches, temperature extremes, and device variations, for example. High peak
voltages are capable of causing breakdown of the active devices, which can lead to
reliability problems.

Express Mail No: EL 767216453 US

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Attorney Docket No: 75622.P0043